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3040 Post Oak Blvd, Suite 1500  
Houston, TX 77056-6582  
TEL 713.623.4844  
FAX 713.623.4846

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**DATE:** November 17, 2006  
**FILE NO:** MRKS/0122  
**TO:** MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents  
**FAX NO:** (571) 273-8300  
**COMPANY:** USPTO  
**FROM:** William B. Patterson  
**PAGE(S) with cover:** 9  
**ORIGINAL TO FOLLOW?**  YES  NO

### RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 23, 2006

**TITLE:** IMPROVING COLLAPSE RESISTANCE OF TUBING  
**U.S. SERIAL NO.:** 10/618,419  
**FILING DATE:** July 11, 2003  
**INVENTOR:** David John Hills et al.  
**EXAMINER:** Hung Charlie Le  
**GROUP ART UNIT:** 3663  
**CONFIRMATION NO.:** 7081

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PATENT  
Atty. Dkt. No. MRKS/0122

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
 David John Hills et al.

Serial No.: 10/618,419

Confirmation No.: 7081

Filed: July 11, 2003

For: IMPROVING COLLAPSE  
 RESISTANCE OF TUBING

§ Group Art Unit: 3663

§ Examiner: Hung Charlie Le

§ Customer No. 36735

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT  
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## RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 23, 2006

In response to the Office Action dated August 23, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 23, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/MRKS/0122/WBP, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.